

Proceedings of the Meeting of the Leeds City Council held
Civic Hall, Leeds on Wednesday, 11th November, 2015

PRESENT: The Lord Mayor Councillor Judith Chapman in the Chair.

WARD

ADEL & WHARFEDALE

Caroline Anderson
Billy Flynn
Barry John Anderson

ALWOODLEY

Dan Cohen
Peter Mervyn Harrand
Neil Alan Buckley

ARDSLEY & ROBIN HOOD

Jack Dunn
Lisa Mulherin
Karen Renshaw

ARMLEY

James McKenna
Alice Smart
Alison Natalie Kay Lowe

BEESTON & HOLBECK

Adam Ogilvie
David Congreve
Angela Gabriel

BRAMLEY & STANNINGLEY

Julie Heselwood
Kevin Ritchie
Caroline Gruen

BURMANTOFTS & RICHMOND HILL

Asghar Khan
Ron Grahame
Maureen Ingham

WARD

CALVERLEY & FARSLEY

Amanda Carter
Rod Wood
Andrew Carter

CHAPEL ALLERTON

Mohammed Rafique
Jane Dowson
Eileen Taylor

CITY & HUNSLET

Patrick Davey
Mohammed Iqbal
Elizabeth Nash

CROSS GATES & WHINMOOR

Pauleen Grahame
Peter John Gruen
Debra Coupar

FARNLEY & WORTLEY

Ann Blackburn
David Blackburn

GARFORTH & SWILLINGTON

Mark Dobson
Stuart McKenna

GIPTON & HAREHILLS

Arif Hussain
Kamila Maqsood
Roger Harington

GUISELEY & RAWDON

Paul John Spencer Wadsworth
Pat Latty
Graham Latty

HAREWOOD

Rachael Procter
Matthew Robinson
Ann Castle

HEADINGLEY

Neil Walshaw
Jonathon Pryor
Janette Walker

HORSFORTH

Dawn Collins
Brian Cleasby
Christopher Townsley

HYDE PARK & WOODHOUSE

Gerry Harper
Javaid Akhtar
Christine Denise Towler

KILLINGBECK & SEACROFT

Catherine Dobson
Brian Michael Selby
Graham Hyde

KIPPAX & METHLEY

James Lewis
Keith Ivor Wakefield
Mary Elizabeth Harland

KIRKSTALL

John Anthony Illingworth
Fiona Venner
Lucinda Joy Yeadon

MIDDLETON PARK

Judith Blake
Kim Groves
Paul Anthony Truswell

MOORTOWN

Rebecca Charlwood
Sharon Hamilton
Alex Sobel

MORLEY NORTH

Robert Gettings
Thomas Leadley
Robert Finnigan

MORLEY SOUTH

Neil Dawson
Shirley Varley
Judith Elliott

OTLEY & YEADON

Colin Campbell
Ryk Downes
Sandy Edward Charles Lay

PUDSEY

Richard Alwyn Lewis
Mick Coulson
Josephine Patricia Jarosz

ROTHWELL

Karen Bruce
Barry Stewart Golton
David Nagle

ROUNDHAY

Christine Macniven
Ghulam Hussain
Bill Urry

TEMPLE NEWSAM

Helen Hayden
Michael Lyons
Judith Cummins

WEETWOOD

Susan Bentley
Judith Mara Chapman
Jonathan Bentley

WETHERBY

Alan James Lamb
John Michael Procter
Gerald Wilkinson

54 Announcements

- a) The Lord Mayor reminded those present that the meeting was to be webcast.
- b) The Lord Mayor informed Council that she had written to Lizzie Armitstead congratulating her on winning the Women's Road Race World Championship and inviting her to a Civic Reception.
- c) The Lord Mayor informed Council that she would be hosting a Civic reception on Monday 16th November 2015 to congratulate the Yorkshire County Cricket Team as well as the women's team and girls under 15s and 13s on winning their respective County Championships.
- d) The Lord Mayor reported the recent death of Lord Denis Healey an Honorary Freeman of the City and Council stood in silent tribute.

55 Minutes

It was moved by Councillor Charwood, seconded by Councillor G Latty and

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 16th September 2015 be approved.

56 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Bruce declared an interest on the minutes of the South & West Plans meeting of the 22nd October 2015 where a personal planning application was considered..

57 Communications

- a) The Chief Executive informed Council that a response to a Council resolution has been received from Jane Ellison MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Public Health in respect of a White Paper resolution on health funding passed by the Council in September 2015 and that the response had previously been circulated to all Members of Council.
- b) The Chief Executive informed Council that a questionnaire on the Boundary Commission Review had been left on each Members seat in the Chamber and he asked members to complete the questionnaires and return them to the Group Office.
- c) Councillor Andrew Carter informed Council that he had that morning received a copy of a letter from the Regional Director of Ofsted to the Chief Executive which highlighted serious deficiencies in some primary schools across Leeds and expressed his disappointment that this information had not been shared with Members. The Chief Executive informed Council that he would ensure that a full briefing for all group Leaders would take place in respect of this matter within the next 48 hours.

58 Deputations

Three deputations were admitted to the meeting and addressed Council, as follows:-

- 1) Headingley residents for the protection of Headingley Hill
- 2) Leeds Skyline Service users

3) Leeds against the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership

RESOLVED – That the subject matters in respect of deputations 1 and 3 be referred to the Director of City Development for consideration in consultation with the relevant Executive Member and that the subject matter in respect of deputation 2 be referred to the Director of Adult Social Services for consideration in consultation with the relevant Executive Member.

59 Recommendations of the Executive Board - Safer Leeds Strategy 2015/16
It was moved by Councillor M Dobson seconded by Councillor Charlwood and

RESOLVED – That the Safer Leeds Strategy 2015/16 be approved as the city's Crime and Disorder Strategy for 2015-16.

60 Recommendations of the Executive Board - Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Licensing Policy

It was moved by Councillor J Lewis seconded by Councillor Charlwood and

RESOLVED – That the Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Licensing Policy 2016 – 2018 be approved as the new policy to have effect from 31st January 2016.

61 Recommendations of the General Purposes Committee - nominations from Scrutiny Board (Adult Social Services, Public Health, NHS) - West Yorkshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

It was moved by Councillor Charlwood seconded by Councillor Selby and

RESOLVED –

(a) to appoint a West Yorkshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee together with the authorities listed at paragraph 6.1 of the submitted report.

(b) That the terms of reference for the West Yorkshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee set out at Appendix 1 of the submitted report be approved.

(c) To delegate relevant functions, as set out in Appendix 1 of the submitted report, that shall be exercisable by the West Yorkshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, subject to the terms and conditions specified.

Council agrees to appoint such members to the West Yorkshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, as nominated by the Scrutiny Board (Adult Social Services, Public Health, NHS), namely:

- The Chair – Councillor Peter Gruen; and,
- Councillor Billy Flynn.

62 Recommendations of the General Purposes Committee - Community Governance Review of Guiseley

It was moved by Councillor Blake seconded by Councillor Charlwood and

RESOLVED – To approve General Purposes Committee's recommendation that a new town council for Guiseley is not created on the basis that the current community governance arrangements in the area under review adequately reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area, and are effective and convenient, as reflected by the number of representations received against the proposal for a new town council from electors in the area.

63 Report on the Leeds Award

It was moved by Councillor Blake, seconded by Councillor Charlwood and

RESOLVED – That the recommendation of the Leeds Award Panel and the decision to approve the award taken by the Chief Executive to award Kevin Sinfield MBE the Leeds Award, as presented by the report of the City Solicitor, be noted.

64 Report on Appointments

It was moved by Councillor Charlwood, seconded by Councillor G Latty and

RESOLVED – That the report of the City Solicitor on appointments be approved, namely that Councillor Buckley replace Councillor Amanda Carter on Scrutiny Board (Citizens and Communities).

65 Report on the Electoral Review of Leeds City Council

It was moved by Councillor J Lewis, seconded by Councillor Charlwood and

RESOLVED – That the report of the Chief Executive on the arrangements and timetable for the Electoral Review be noted.

66 Report on the Inner West Community Committee

It was moved by Councillor Ritchie, seconded by Councillor Venner and

RESOLVED – That the report on the work of the Inner West Community Committee be noted.

67 Report on the Inner South Community Committee

It was moved by Councillor Gabriel, seconded by Councillor Truswell and

RESOLVED – That the report on the work of the Inner South Community Committee be noted.

68 Questions

Q1 Councillor Andrew Carter to the Executive Member (Regeneration, Transport and Planning):-

Will the Executive Board Member for Regeneration, Transport and Planning confirm that he will instruct council officers to cease using the term 'PAS land' to describe safeguarded land, bringing us into line with terminology used in the rest of the country?

The Executive Member (Regeneration, Transport and Planning) replied.

Q2 Councillor Lay to the Executive Member (Health, Wellbeing and Adults):-

Can the executive member for health, wellbeing and adults reassure council about the future of the St Anne's alcohol rehab service in the light of recent speculation about its potential closure?

The Executive Member (Health, Wellbeing and Adults) replied.

Q3 Councillor C Gruen to the Executive Member (Environmental Protection and Community Safety):-

Does the Executive Member with responsibility for Community Safety have concerns about Police provision for next year?

The Executive Member (Environmental Protection and Community Safety) replied.

- Q4 Councillor A Blackburn to the Executive Member (Regeneration, Transport and Planning):-
- Can the Executive Member please update Council as to when the Elland Road Match Day Residents Permit Parking Scheme will be introduced on the identified roads in the Wortley area?
- The Executive Member (Regeneration, Transport and Planning) replied.
- Q5 Councillor Heselwood to the Executive Member (Resources and Strategy):-
- Can the Executive Member for Resources and Strategy give an assessment of the impact of the proposed Trade Union Bill on the Council's relationship with Trade Unions?
- The Executive Member (Resources and Strategy) replied.
- Q6 Councillor P Harrand to the Chair of the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel:-
- Will the Chair of the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel update council on the present state of negotiations between the police service and the fire service about the development of the site at Weetwood, which have been going on for eighteen months and seem to be getting nowhere?
- The Chair of the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel replied.
- Q7 Councillor Townsley to the Executive Member (Children and Families):-
- Could the executive member for children please update council on the status of talks between asset management and Leeds City College regarding the potential acquisition of the Leeds City College Horsforth campus site for educational purposes?
- The Executive Member (Children and Families) replied.
- Q8 Councillor Sobel to the Executive Member (Regeneration, Transport and Planning):-
- Does the Executive Member with responsibility for housing growth feel that Council tenants are on a "high income" if they earn £30,000 a year?
- The Executive Member (Regeneration, Transport and Planning) replied.
- Q9 Councillor Gettings to the Executive Member (Children and Families):-
- In a child friendly city how important is it for the City Council to acknowledge young people's achievements and to hear their voice?
- The Executive Member (Children and Families) replied.
- Q10 Councillor Dunn to the Executive Member (Communities):-
- Will the Executive Member for Communities comment on the importance of investment into the new Horticultural Nursery at Whinmoor Grange?
- The Executive Member (Communities) replied.

At the conclusion of question time, the following questions remained unanswered and it was noted that, under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 11.6, written answers would be sent to each Member of Council:-

- Q11 Councillor Amanda Carter to the Executive Member (Regeneration, Transport and Planning).
- Q12 Councillor Golton to the Executive Member (Health, Wellbeing and Adults).
- Q13 Councillor A Hussain to the Executive Member (Employment, Enterprise and Opportunity).
- Q14 Councillor Jarosz to the Executive Member (Health, Wellbeing and Adults).
- Q15 Councillor G Latty to the Executive Member (Regeneration, Transport and Planning).
- Q16 Councillor Campbell to the Executive Member (Regeneration, Transport and Planning).
- Q17 Councillor Flynn to the Executive Member (Resources and Strategy).
- Q18 Councillor Lay to the Executive Member (Health, Wellbeing and Adults).
- Q19 Councillor Mulherin to the Executive Member (Health, Wellbeing and Adults).
- Q20 Councillor Cleasby to the Executive Member (Regeneration, Transport and Planning).
- Q21 Councillor Robinson to the Executive Member (Regeneration, Transport and Planning).
- Q22 Councillor Lay to the Executive Member (Environmental Protection and Community Safety).
- Q23 Councillor Robinson to the Executive Member (Environmental Protection and Community Safety).
- Q24 Councillor Lay to the Executive Member (Environmental Protection and Community Safety).
- Q25 Councillor B Anderson to the Executive Member (Environmental Protection and Community Safety).
- Q26 Councillor Lay to the Executive Member (Regeneration, Transport and Planning)
- Q27 Councillor B Anderson to the Executive Member (Regeneration, Transport and Planning)
- Q28 Councillor B Anderson to the Executive Member (Environmental Protection and Community Safety)
- Q29 Councillor B Anderson to the Executive Member (Regeneration, Transport and Planning)
- Q30 Councillor B Anderson to the Executive Member (Resources and Strategy)

69 Minutes

It was moved by Councillor Blake, seconded by Councillor Charlwood that the minutes be received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2.2(i).

An amendment(reference back) was submitted by Councillor J Bentley, to add the following at the end of item 15:

‘To ask the Executive Board to reconsider the decision in relation to Improving Air Quality within the City, contained in minute 64 of the Executive Board minutes of 21st October 2015.’

The amendment (reference back) was declared lost and upon being put to the vote it was

RESOLVED – That the minutes be received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2.2(i)

Council Procedure Rule 4, providing for the winding up of business, was applied prior to all notified comments on the minutes having been debated.

At the conclusion of this item Council adjourned from 16.20 to 16.50

70 Report on Devolution

It was moved by Councillor Blake, seconded by Councillor J Lewis and

RESOLVED – That the report of the Chief Executive updating Members on matters in respect of devolution be received.

71 White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor B Anderson) - Public Health and Planning

It was moved by Councillor B Anderson, seconded by Councillor Andrew Carter that this Council notes the recommendations made in the Director of Public Health’s Annual Report, approved at Executive Board in September 2015, particularly around planning and engagement with communities.

Council is concerned that the proposal to deliver 70,000 new homes in Leeds, with a possible increase in population of 150,000, could lead to an adverse impact on public health in the city. It could affect the ability of residents to access already stretched GPs and dental surgeries but also impact negatively on communities through increased road congestion, reduced air quality and loss of Greenbelt and open space. Council further notes the existing problems the Council is dealing with in relation to air quality and possible associated financial penalties.

The Public Health Annual Report goes on to set out how the Council aims to engage with communities. This Council is concerned that the consultation on the site allocations process does not meet those aims. Namely it does not:

- make it easy for everyone to take part
- make the engagement meaningful and honest
- involve people at the earliest possible stage
- show everyone the impact the engagement has had

This Council remains concerned about the plan to deliver 70,000 new homes and the process of consultation that underpins it.

An amendment was moved by Councillor R Lewis, seconded by Councillor Mulherin

Delete all after “with communities” and replace with:

Council further notes that the consultation on the draft Site Allocation Plan and Aire Valley Action Plan are ongoing- and suggests that anyone wishing to make a comment is able to do so at www.leeds.gov.uk/yourcity or using the other contact methods available. Council notes the end date of this consultation is 16 November 2015.

Council is committed to ensuring that public health is a key focus for action in planning in Leeds, with a clear need to consult with all stakeholders on new planning applications and guidance.

Council appreciates the recognition within the Director of Public Health’s report that the environment in which we live is a major determinant of health and wellbeing. Council recognises that health considerations are part of both the adopted Core Strategy and the Leeds Standard for Housing, showing commitment to Public Health for new developments in Leeds. Council further notes the work being done to improve air quality, including the promotion of cycling and walking both for new developments and as part of existing infrastructure.

Council is therefore deeply concerned that the ambitions set out in the report are put at risk by the proposed Housing and Planning Bill 2015-16, especially the provisions to:

- Give automatic planning permission on brownfield sites, without detailed local planning decision making on whether these sites are suitable.
- Place “Starter Homes” on equal footing with truly affordable Council and Housing Association homes.
- Impose Right to Buy on Housing Associations.
- Demand Local Authorities sell “high value” Council homes, with the potential to remove social housing from many areas.
- Give powers to the Secretary of State to impose rental increases on “high income” tenants, with the potential to keep any additional funds himself.

Council calls on Central Government to reconsider these provisions, which appear to have the potential to dramatically reduce Council’s abilities to plan and create healthy, vibrant, mixed communities in Leeds. Council asks the Executive Members responsible for Health and Planning to write to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government to inform them of this resolution.

Council also requests that the Executive Member for Regeneration, Transport and Planning keeps Council up to date about responses to the draft Site Allocations Plan and Aire Valley Action Plan consultations.

The motion would read:

This Council notes the recommendations made in the Director of Public Health’s Annual Report, approved at Executive Board in September 2015, particularly around planning and engagement with communities.

Council further notes that the consultation on the draft Site Allocation Plan and Aire Valley Action Plan are ongoing- and suggests that anyone wishing to make a comment is able to do so at www.leeds.gov.uk/yourcity or using the other contact methods available. Council notes the end date of this consultation is 16 November 2015.

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Council also requests that the Executive Member for Regeneration, Transport and Planning keeps Council up to date about responses to the draft Site Allocations Plan and Aire Valley Action Plan consultations.

The amendment in the name of Councillor R Lewis was carried and upon being put to the vote it was;

RESOLVED – That this Council notes the recommendations made in the Director of Public Health's Annual Report, approved at Executive Board in September 2015, particularly around planning and engagement with communities.

Council further notes that the consultation on the draft Site Allocation Plan and Aire Valley Action Plan are ongoing- and suggests that anyone wishing to make a comment is able to do so at www.leeds.gov.uk/yourcity or using the other contact methods available. Council notes the end date of this consultation is 16 November 2015.

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Council also requests that the Executive Member for Regeneration, Transport and Planning keeps Council up to date about responses to the draft Site Allocations Plan and Aire Valley Action Plan consultations.

72 White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Finnigan) - Welfare Reform

It was moved by Councillor Finnigan, seconded by Councillor Golton that this Council accepts the necessity of welfare reform but believes any new welfare system must provide fair financial support for both hard working families and the vulnerable people of Leeds. The proposed Tax Credit reforms do not achieve these objectives and in light of this we call on the Chief Executive to write to the Government asking them to abandon them.

An amendment was moved by Councillor A Blackburn seconded by Councillor D Blackburn

After “This Council” delete “accepts the necessity of welfare reform but”.

Motion would read:

“This Council believes any new welfare system must provide fair financial support for both hard working families and the vulnerable people of Leeds. The proposed Tax Credit reforms do not achieve these objectives and in light of this we call on the Chief Executive to write to the Government asking them to abandon them.”

A second amendment was moved by Councillor Coupar seconded by Councillor Yeadon,

Delete all after “This Council” and replace with:

“...remains incredibly concerned about the impact on households in Leeds of Government’s plans to remove up to £13billion nationally in support from some of the most vulnerable people by 2020/21. Council is particularly disappointed to learn that the promise to avoid cuts to tax credits has been broken.

This Council has noted analysis by the Institute for Fiscal Studies, the Resolution Foundation and others which demonstrates that tax and wage changes will not offset the shortfall from tax credit cuts in full, particularly with lengthy delays before the minimum wage increase could reach £9 per hour.

Council believes children will suffer the most as a result of this decision given that 77% of in work families claiming tax credits have a household income of less than £20,000 a year, and 83% of those in-work families have at least one child. Locally in Leeds this Council continues to work hard to give children the best start in life but is concerned that Government has decided to withdraw vital support from families working hard for low pay.

Council notes that this Government has failed to achieve its own deficit reduction targets set out in 2010 and the national debt doubled over the last Parliament. In that context, Council does not believe it is the right priority for Government to help the wealthiest 4% of the population to benefit from tax changes, whilst placing the burden of its own failure on hard working families in Leeds. This Council calls on Government to withdraw these damaging cuts and maintain vital support for those who need it in our city. Council asks that the Executive Board member for Communities writes to central government to notify them of this resolution.”

Full motion will then read:

“This Council remains incredibly concerned about the impact on households in Leeds of Government’s plans to remove up to £13billion nationally in support from some of the most vulnerable people by 2020/21. Council is particularly disappointed to learn that the promise to avoid cuts to tax credits has been broken.

This Council has noted analysis by the Institute for Fiscal Studies, the Resolution Foundation and others which demonstrates that tax and wage changes will not offset the shortfall from tax credit cuts in full, particularly with lengthy delays before the minimum wage increase could reach £9 per hour.

Council believes children will suffer the most as a result of this decision given that 77% of in work families claiming tax credits have a household income of less than £20,000 a year, and 83% of those in-work families have at least one child. Locally in Leeds this Council continues to work hard to give children the best start in life but is concerned that Government has decided to withdraw vital support from families working hard for low pay.

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A third amendment was moved by Councillor Lamb seconded by Councillor Buckley

Delete all after “vulnerable people of Leeds” and replace with:

“Council calls on the Government to urgently spell out the measures that will help affected families in the transition to the new welfare system, whilst also achieving reforms to tax credits and ensuring economic stability.”

Amended motion would read as follows:

“This Council accepts the necessity of welfare reform but believes any new welfare system must provide fair financial support for both hard working families and the vulnerable people of Leeds. Council calls on the Government to urgently spell out the measures that will help affected families in the transition to the new welfare system, whilst also achieving reforms to tax credits and ensuring economic stability.”

The amendments in the name of Councillor A Blackburn and Councillor Lamb were declared lost.

The amendment in the name of Councillor Coupar was carried and upon being put to the vote it was;

RESOLVED – That this Council remains incredibly concerned about the impact on households in Leeds of Government’s plans to remove up to £13billion nationally in support from some of the most vulnerable people by 2020/21. Council is particularly disappointed to learn that the promise to avoid cuts to tax credits has been broken.

This Council has noted analysis by the Institute for Fiscal Studies, the Resolution Foundation and others which demonstrates that tax and wage changes will not offset the shortfall from tax credit cuts in full, particularly with lengthy delays before the minimum wage increase could reach £9 per hour.

Council believes children will suffer the most as a result of this decision given that 77% of in work families claiming tax credits have a household income of less than £20,000 a year, and 83% of those in-work families have at least one child. Locally in Leeds this Council continues to work hard to give children the best start in life but is concerned that Government has decided to withdraw vital support from families working hard for low pay.

Council notes that this Government has failed to achieve its own deficit reduction targets set out in 2010 and the national debt doubled over the last Parliament. In that context, Council does not believe it is the right priority for Government to help the wealthiest 4% of the population to benefit from tax changes, whilst placing the burden of its own failure on hard working families in Leeds. This Council calls on Government to withdraw these damaging cuts and maintain vital support for those who need it in our city. Council asks that the Executive Board member for Communities writes to central government to notify them of this resolution.

73 Motion to Suspend Council Procedure Rules

It was moved by Councillor Coupar, seconded by Councillor Yeadon that under the provisions of Council procedure Rule 14.10 that leave of Council be given to withdraw the motion in my name on Tax Credits.

Upon being put to the vote it was

RESOLVED – That leave of Council be given to withdraw the motion in the name of Councillor Coupar.

74 White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Coupar) - Tax Credits

Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 14.10, and with the consent of the seconder, leave of Council was given to withdraw the motion in the name of Councillor Coupar.

75 Motion to Suspend Council Procedure Rules

It was moved by Councillor Charlwood, seconded by Councillor Selby that under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule(CPR) 22.1 (Suspension of CPRs), that CPR 12 (Motions on Notice) (White Paper Motions) be suspended to allow the introduction of a White Paper in the name of Councillor Richard Lewis and all subsequent amendments.

Upon being put to the vote it was

RESOLVED – That leave of Council be given to introduce a motion in the name of Councillor R Lewis and all subsequent amendments.

76 Replacement White Paper Motion(in the name of Councillor R Lewis) - Fracking

It was moved by Councillor R Lewis, seconded by Councillor Renshaw that this Council opposes the current exploration licenses for fracking in the Leeds area.

Council believes that these plans have been promoted and supported by central government, who are in the process of considering onshore oil and gas exploration applications for 159 areas of the Country, including a large section of South and East Leeds. Council laments that at the same time as this support, proposed changes to feed in tariffs and the end of funding for Green Deal are reported to be forcing companies working on renewable energy out of business.

Council notes the significant concerns about health, ecology and environment that require much further investigation before fracking can be justified near to residential areas. Council notes that Rothwell Country Park, Rothwell Pastures and the St Aidan's reserve are all in the proposed exploration area.

Council believes that if planning applications are made for fracking then they should be considered thoroughly, with full local consultation. Council therefore opposes changes that "fast-track" planning applications for fracking sites, including greater powers for the Secretary of State, at the cost of local decision making.

Council therefore calls on central government to:

- Withdraw the exploration licenses for fracking covering the Leeds district until the serious concerns about environment and health have been comprehensively addressed.
- Ensure that local people are given a say on these significant planning applications by reversing the policy to "fast-track" fracking applications and remove the threat of the Secretary of State making local planning decisions.
- Provide the conditions for British companies working on renewable energy to thrive in order to reduce dependence on non-renewables.

Council requests that the Executive Member for Regeneration, Transport and Planning writes to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government to confirm this resolution and calls on all members and officers to work towards these outcomes.

An amendment was moved by Councillor J Bentley seconded by Councillor Golton,

To insert at the end of the motion:

"Council resolves to develop a council policy on shale gas and coal bed methane extraction by referring this motion for a full scrutiny inquiry into the issue of fracking including the evidence of ecological, geological and environmental impacts associated with this method and to report back to full council as soon as possible.

“Council further resolves to increase its own commitment to non-fossil fuel electricity generation and requests that a report is brought to Executive Board at the earliest opportunity detailing how the council can help increase the city’s energy capacity from renewable sources including wind, solar and anaerobic digestion.”

A second amendment was moved by Councillor B Anderson seconded by Councillor Wadsworth,

Delete all after ‘This Council’ and replace with:

‘opposes the current exploration licenses for fracking in the Leeds area until such time as concerns about health, ecology and environment have been fully addressed.

This Council notes the increasingly urgent need for enhanced energy production in the UK as highlighted by the recent use of ‘last resort’ measures by the national grid to ensure that houses and business retained energy supplies.

Council believes that if planning applications are made for fracking then they should be considered thoroughly, with full local consultation. Council does note that there are currently proposals for the Secretary of State to get further powers in respect of fracking but would ask that Parliament ensures that full and thorough scrutiny and debate is carried out before any legislation is agreed.

This Council believes that any proposals to introduce fracking to the Leeds area should only be done with local support and once safety concerns have been fully addressed.’

The amendments in the name of Councillor J Bentley and Councillor B Anderson were declared lost and upon being put to the vote it was

RESOLVED - That this Council opposes the current exploration licenses for fracking in the Leeds area.

Council believes that these plans have been promoted and supported by central government, who are in the process of considering onshore oil and gas exploration applications for 159 areas of the Country, including a large section of South and East Leeds. Council laments that at the same time as this support, proposed changes to feed in tariffs and the end of funding for Green Deal are reported to be forcing companies working on renewable energy out of business.

Council notes the significant concerns about health, ecology and environment that require much further investigation before fracking can be justified near to residential areas. Council notes that Rothwell Country Park, Rothwell Pastures and the St Aidan’s reserve are all in the proposed exploration area.

Council believes that if planning applications are made for fracking then they should be considered thoroughly, with full local consultation. Council therefore opposes changes that “fast-track” planning applications for fracking sites, including greater powers for the Secretary of State, at the cost of local decision making.

Council therefore calls on central government to:

- Withdraw the exploration licenses for fracking covering the Leeds district until the serious concerns about environment and health have been comprehensively addressed.
- Ensure that local people are given a say on these significant planning applications by reversing the policy to “fast-track” fracking applications and remove the threat of the Secretary of State making local planning decisions.

- Provide the conditions for British companies working on renewable energy to thrive in order to reduce dependence on non-renewables.

Council requests that the Executive Member for Regeneration, Transport and Planning writes to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government to confirm this resolution and calls on all members and officers to work towards these outcomes.

77 Motion to Suspend Council Procedure Rules

It was moved by Councillor Charlwood, seconded by Councillor G Latty that under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule(CPR) 22.1 (Suspension of CPRs), that CPR 12 (Motions on Notice) (White Paper Motions) be suspended to allow the introduction of an additional White Paper (not for debate).

Upon being put to the vote it was

RESOLVED – That leave of Council be given to introduce an additional White Paper (not for debate).

78 *White Paper Motion (in the name of Councillor Andrew Carter) - Lizzie Armitstead

It was moved by Councillor J Procter , seconded by Councillor Blake , and supported by Councillors Lay, Elliott and D Blackburn and

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY – That this Council congratulates Lizzie Armitstead on her fantastic recent achievement in becoming only the fourth British woman to win the road cycling world championship following in the footsteps of Beryl Burton as the second woman from Leeds to achieve this magnificent feat.

Council rose at 19.25